For immediate release Thursday, October 9, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of Mrs. Ford's Press Secretary

Mrs. Ford has asked that the gardens and grounds of the White House be open to the public on Saturday, October 18, and Sunday, October 19, 1975, from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Visitors may enter the grounds through the East Gate of the White House, and any guest in line at the designated closing time of 5:00 p.m. will be able to take the tour. Reservations are not required.

The tour includes a walk through the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, the South Lawn, and the Children's Garden. It concludes with a visit to the Rose Garden. The State Floor rooms of the White House will also be open for visitors to enjoy at their leisure.

White House and National Park Service staff will be available to answer questions and each guest will receive a brochure which will! serve as a guide. Bands of the Armed Services will provide music from the South Balcony both afternoons.

During the Bicentennial, Mrs. Ford plans to make the grounds more available to the increased numbers of visitors expected in Washington. The plans presently call for the gardens to be open one weekend each month beginning with April and concluding in October. Dates and times will be announced next year.